APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/613,067	07/10/2000	·Mitsuru Nagasaka	450100-02611	9087

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EXAMINER
MA, JOHNNY

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2623	

DATE MAILED: 09/22/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	09/613,067	NAGASAKA ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Johnny Ma	2623

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>23 August 2006</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL**.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1-13* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1-13* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All   b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1.   Applicant's arguments filed 8/23/2006 have been fully considered but they are not

persuasive.

Applicant argues that "nothing has been found in Williams, Anderson, or Bedard taken

alone or in combination, that discloses or suggests the above-identified features of claim 1.

Specifically, Applicants submit that Williams, Anderson and Bedard fail to teach or suggest that

said user preference information includes a plurality of registration patterns, wherein the

registration pattern corresponds to an event and limits the headline information that is to be

searched, wherein one of the plurality of registration patterns is selected first by a user, preceding

a selection of corresponding search criteria, and wherein results of searching based on said user

preference information are a function of the selected registration pattern" (Remarks pg. 13). The

examiner respectfully disagrees and notes that "registration pattern" has not been further defined

in the claims. As discussed in the previous Office Action, the claimed registration patterns are

met by the plurality of selectable user profiles as taught by Williams (see 9:31-44). The user

profiles (registration patterns) correspond to an event wherein the user profile information

includes data such as preferred program genre (Williams 5:59-66) and limits the headline

information that is to be searched according to the user profile (Williams 8:41-46) such as

limiting the search to specific program genres. Furthermore, the Williams reference teaches a

user selecting their corresponding profile prior to performing a search (Williams 10:26-41)

wherein users may select corresponding search criteria by modifying their preference

information on user profile database 8000 to add to, subtract from, and/modify their recorded

preferences (Williams 17:17-22). The results of searching based on said user preference

information is a function of the selected registration pattern in that the search results is based on

the preferences associated with the selected user profile (registration pattern) (Williams 11:22-

27).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in
> section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are
> such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person
> having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the
> manner in which the invention was made.

3.   Claims 1-11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Williams et

al. (US 5,977,964 of record) in further view of Anderson et al. (US 6,005,631) and Bedard (US

5,793,438).

As to claim 1, note the Williams et al. reference that discloses a method and apparatus for

automatically configuring a system based on user's monitored system interaction and preferred

system access times. The claimed "memory means for storing user preference information" is

met by the plurality of user profiles are stored locally, in system 100 (9:31-34). The claimed

"means for detecting reception of a plurality of headline information related to an information" is

met by system controller [104] determines from the available programming information all

programs which match the user's preferences (Williams et al. 11:27-42) wherein the system

controller searches the programming information each time it receives updated programming

information (Williams et al. 12:1-4). The claimed "means for searching, based on said user

preference information stored in said memory means" is met by accessing a program database

for searching keywords that match user profile preferences (Williams et al. 11:30-32), given a

particular search request, system controller 104 searches the programming information each time

it receives updated programming information (via an on-line service, diskette, etc. as discussed

above), and prompts the user with the found program information in step 402 (Williams et al.

11:61-67; 12:1-5). The claimed "headline information coincided with said user preference

information among received headline information at the time when the reception of said plurality

of headline information is detected by said detecting means" is met by system controller

accessing program database searching for keywords which match user profile preferences

(Williams et al. 11:30-32) and "user profile database 800 also includes storage for user-defined

requests" (Williams et al. 11:61-64). The claimed "means for generating a second image

corresponding to a search result" is met by "[h]aving developed a list of programming

suggestions in step 400, system controller 104 prompts the system user, in an interactive pop-up

window, with the list of programming suggestions, step 402" (Williams et al. 11:49-52).

Note, the Williams et al. reference discloses "[s]ystem controller 104 first accesses a program

database searching for keywords which match user profile preferences, step 400" (Williams et al.

11:27-41). However, the Williams et al. reference does not specifically disclose how the search

result is displayed in the pop-window, the claimed "means for generating a first image

corresponding to the user preference information." Now note the Anderson et al. reference that

discloses methods and apparatus for organizing and searching an electronic programming guide

wherein search terms (keywords) are displayed with the search result (Anderson, see Figure 9D

illustrates "Movies-Western" (keyword) and "True Grit, Blazing Saddles" (search results).

Therefore, the examiner submits that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art at the time the invention was made to modify the Williams et al. pop up window displaying

search results based on user profile/keywords and the Anderson et al. display of search

terms/keywords along with search results for the purpose of providing allowing the user to

readily recognize the criteria of programming suggested to the user and thus quickly determine

the relevance of the program suggestions. Note the Williams et al. and Anderson et al.

combination as discussed above teaches a displaying a first image and second image in an

interactive pop up window. However, the Williams et al. and Anderson et al. combination is

silent as to "means for superimposing [...] over a current video signal." Now note the Bedard

reference that discloses an electronic program guide with enhanced presentation. The claimed

"means for superimposing [...] over a current video signal" is met by "[p]resentation unit 336

combines the program guide display generated by display generation unit 336 with the video

signal received from tuner/decoder 328 to produce a video signal for display. Certain prompts

and displays may be superimposed over video programming of the selected channel" (Bedard

3:67-4:6). Therefore, the examiner submits that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary

skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Williams et al. and Anderson et

al. combination teaching a first image and second image display with the Bedard superimposing

of a display for the purpose of providing other functionality to a user while allowing the user to

continue to partially monitor the currently tuned programming. The claimed "wherein said user

preference information includes a plurality of registration patterns" is met by the plurality of user

profiles (Williams 9:31-44). The claimed "wherein the registration pattern corresponds to an

event and limits the headline information that is to be searched" is met by the selected user

profile limits the information that is to be searched wherein searching is performed according to

the user's preferences (Williams 11:22-48). Note the user profile (registration pattern)

corresponds to an event wherein the user profile information includes data such as preferred

program genre (Williams 5:59-66) and limits the headline information that is to be searched

according to the user profile (Williams 8:41-46) such as limiting the search to specific program

genres. The claimed "wherein one of the plurality of registration patterns is selected first by a

user, preceding a selection of corresponding search criteria" is met by "system controller 104

may provide a window on television/monitor 102 wherein a number of pictures of possible

system users are displayed, wherein the first picture displayed is that which system controller

104 has identified as the most likely system user, requesting that the user affirmatively response

(e.g., via remote control or voice command) when their picture is displayed...If the match is

verified as being accurate, then system controller 104 proceeds to configure the system in step

308" (Williams 10:26-41) wherein "users are able to access their preferences on user profile

database 800 of FIG. 8 and add to, subtract from, and/or modify their recorded preferences"

(Williams 17:17-22). The claimed "and wherein results of searching based on said user

preference information are a function of the selected registration pattern" is met by a the plurality

of user profiles [registration patterns] stored locally on system 100 (Williams et al. 9:31-34)

wherein having determined the current user, the system provides a number of programming

suggestions which most closely align with the user profile of that particular user (Williams

11:22-27).

As to claim 2, the claimed display means for displaying said headline information

searched by said searching means. The Williams et al. reference discloses having developed a

list of programming suggestions in step 400, system controller 104 prompts the system user, in

an interactive pop-up window, with the list of programming suggestions, step 402 (11:49-52).

As to claim 3, the claimed recording means for recording said information related to said

headline information searched by said searching means. The Williams et al. reference discloses

if, however, the user elects to forego the suggested programming in step 404, system controller

104 may then prompt the user with the option of recording one of the suggested programs in step

408. If the user elects to record one of the suggested programs, system controller 104 configures

system 100 to record the program selection to any one of the available recording media (12:8-

14).

As to claim 4, the claimed wherein said user preference information includes a plurality

of preference items. The Williams et al. reference discloses as depicted, for television/monitor

102, user profile database 800 tracks user preferred channels, volume, program genre

information, whether to block content information, and whether supplemental programming is

requested with a particular channel (5:59-65). Additional preference information may also be

stored in user profile database 800, including top ten favorite shows, most frequently

watched/listened to source(s), most frequently watched/listened to channel(s)/station(s) per

source, typical watching/listening periods, favorite genre(s), favorite commercial(s), favorite

actor(s)/actress(es) (6:63-67; 7:1-2).

As to claim 5, the claimed wherein said information is broadcast program transmitted

from broadcast stations. The Williams et al. reference discloses in one embodiment, for

example, system 100 receives programming input from any or all of the following sources: cable

broadcast 124, satellite broadcast 126 (e.g., via a satellite dish), very high frequency (VHF) or

ultra high frequency (UHF) radio frequency communication of the broadcast networks 134 (e.g.,

via an aerial antenna), and/or the telephone/computer network interface (4:31-37). The Williams

et al. reference also discloses in one embodiment, the program database is part of system

controller 104, and is updated periodically by accessing a remote server (not shown) via

telephone/network communications 128 or via other mediums such as distributed diskettes or CD

ROMs, a vertical blanking interval (VBI) of an analog signal, or an additional data stream

corresponding to a digital video signal (e.g., from a satellite system). (8:48-56).

As to claim 6, note the Williams et al. reference that discloses a method and apparatus for

automatically configuring a system based on user's monitored system interaction and preferred

system access times. The claimed "storing user preference information" is met by the plurality

of user profiles are stored locally, in system 100 (9:31-34). The claimed "detecting reception of

a plurality of headline information related to an information" is met by system controller [104]

determines from the available programming information all programs which match the user's

preferences (Williams et al. 11:27-42) wherein the system controller searches the programming

information each time it receives updated programming information (Williams et al. 12:1-4).

The claimed "and searching, based on user preference information stored at said storing step,

headline information coincided with said user preference information among received headline

information is detected at said detecting step" is met by system controller accessing program

database and searching for keywords which match user profile preferences (Williams et al.

11:30-32) and "user profile database 800 also includes storage for user-defined requests"

(Williams et al. 11:61-64) given a particular search request, system controller 104 searches the

programming information each time it receives updated programming information (via an on-

line service, diskette, etc. as discussed above), and prompts the user with the found program

information in step 402 (Williams et al. 11:61-67; 12:1-5) and program database searching for

keywords (Williams et al. 11:30-37). The claimed "generating a second image corresponding to

a search result" is met by "[h]aving developed a list of programming suggestions in step 400,

system controller 104 prompts the system user, in an interactive pop-up window, with the list of

programming suggestions, step 402" (Williams et al. 11:49-52). Note, the Williams et al.

reference discloses "[s]ystem controller 104 first accesses a program database searching for

keywords which match user profile preferences, step 400" (Williams et al. 11:27-41).

However, the Williams et al. reference does not specifically disclose how the search result is

displayed in the pop-window, the claimed "generating a first image corresponding to the user

preference information." Now note the Anderson et al. reference that discloses methods and

apparatus for organizing and searching an electronic programming guide wherein search terms

(keywords) are displayed with the search result (Anderson, see Figure 9D illustrates "Movies-

Western" (keyword) and "True Grit, Blazing Saddles" (search results). Therefore, the examiner

submits that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made to modify the Williams et al. pop up window displaying search results based

on user profile/keywords and the Anderson et al. display of search terms/keywords along with

search results for the purpose of providing allowing the user to readily recognize the criteria of

programming suggested to the user and thus quickly determine the relevance of the program

suggestions. Note the Williams et al. and Anderson et al. combination as discussed above

teaches a displaying a first image and second image in an interactive pop up window.

However, the Williams et al. and Anderson et al. combination is silent as to "superimposing [...]

over a current video signal." Now note the Bedard reference that discloses an electronic program

guide with enhanced presentation. The claimed "superimposing [...] over a current video signal"

is met by "[p]resentation unit 336 combines the program guide display generated by display

generation unit 336 with the video signal received from tuner/decoder 328 to produce a video

signal for display. Certain prompts and displays may be superimposed over video programming

of the selected channel" (Bedard 3:67-4:6). Therefore, the examiner submits that it would have

been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the

Williams et al. and Anderson et al. combination teaching a first image and second image display

with the Bedard superimposing of a display for the purpose of providing other functionality to a

user while allowing the user to continue to partially monitor the currently tuned programming.

The claimed "wherein said user preference information includes a plurality of registration

patterns, wherein each registration pattern corresponds to an event" is met by the plurality of user

profiles (Williams 9:31-44) that correspond to an event wherein the user profile information

includes data such as preferred program genre (Williams 5:59-66). The claimed "limiting the

headline information that is to be searched" is met by the selected user profile limits the

information that is to be searched wherein searching is performed according to the user's

preferences (Williams 11:22-48). The claimed "wherein one of the plurality of registration

patterns is selected first by a user, preceding a selection of corresponding search criteria" is met

by "system controller 104 may provide a window on television/monitor 102 wherein a number of

pictures of possible system users are displayed, wherein the first picture displayed is that which

system controller 104 has identified as the most likely system user, requesting that the user

affirmatively response (e.g., via remote control or voice command) when their picture is

displayed...If the match is verified as being accurate, then system controller 104 proceeds to

configure the system in step 308" (Williams 10:26-41) wherein "users are able to access their

preferences on user profile database 800 of FIG. 8 and add to, subtract from, and/or modify their

recorded preferences" (Williams 17:17-22). The claimed "and wherein results of searching

based on said user preference information are a function of the selected registration pattern" is

met by a the plurality of user profiles [registration patterns] stored locally on **system** 100

(Williams et al. 9:31-34) wherein having determined the current user, the system provides a

number of programming suggestions which most closely align with the user profile of that

particular user (Williams 11:22-27).

As to claim 7, the claimed displaying said headline information searched at said

searching step. The Williams et al. reference discloses having developed a list of programming

suggestions in step 400, system controller 104 prompts the system user, in an interactive pop-up

window, with the list of programming suggestions, step 402 (11:49-52).

As to claim 8, the claimed recording said information related to said headline information

searched at said searching step. The Williams et al. reference discloses if, however, the user

elects to forego the suggested programming in step 404, system controller 104 may then prompt

the user with the option of recording one of the suggested programs in step 408. If the user

elects to record one of the suggested programs, system controller 104 configures system 100 to

record the program selection to any one of the available recording media (12:8-14).

As to claim 9, the claimed said user preference information includes a plurality of

preference items. The Williams et al. reference discloses as depicted, for television/monitor 102,

user profile database 800 tracks user preferred channels, volume, program genre information,

whether to block content information, and whether supplemental programming is requested with

a particular channel (5:59-65). Additional preference information may also be stored in user

profile database 800, including top ten favorite shows, most frequently watched/listened to

source(s), most frequently watched/listened to channel(s)/station(s) per source, typical

watching/listening periods, favorite genre(s), favorite commercial(s), favorite actor(s)/actress(es)

(6:63-67; 7:1-2).

As to claim 10, the claimed wherein said information is broadcast program transmitted

from broadcast stations. The Williams et al. reference discloses in one embodiment, for

example, system 100 receives programming input from any or all of the following sources: cable

broadcast 124, satellite broadcast 126 (e.g., via a satellite dish), very high frequency (VHF) or

ultra high frequency (UHF) radio frequency communication of the broadcast networks 134 (e.g.,

via an aerial antenna), and/or the telephone/computer network interface (4:31-37). The Williams

et al. reference also discloses in one embodiment, the program database is part of system

controller 104, and is updated periodically by accessing a remote server (not shown) via

telephone/network communications 128 or via other mediums such as distributed diskettes or CD

ROMs, a vertical blanking interval (VBI) of an analog signal, or an additional data stream

corresponding to a digital video signal (e.g., from a satellite system). (8:48-56).

As to claim 11, note the Williams et al. reference that discloses a method and apparatus

for automatically configuring a system based on user's monitored system interaction and

preferred system access times. The claimed "remote commander means" is met by in one

embodiment of the system controller 600, keyboard and pointing device are coupled to standard

I/O bus 608 with a serial communication interface cable, while in alternate embodiments it may

be communicatively coupled with an infrared (IR) interface or a radio-frequency (RF) interface

(Williams et al. 14:30-35). The claimed "memory means for storing user preference information

entered from said remote commander means" is met by "the plurality of user profiles are stored

locally, in system 100" (Williams et al. 9:31-34) wherein user profile database 800 also includes

storage for user-defined requests. System controller 104 allows individual users to input

requests, via remote control, for particular suggestions. These requests can be for specific titles

of shows/movies or keywords, the request may include wildcard (e.g., any shows with "star" in

the title), and can also be negative (e.g., no shows with "star" in the title) (Williams et al. 11:61-

67; 12:1). The claimed "means for detecting reception of a plurality of headline information

related to an information" is met by system controller [104] determines from the available

programming information all programs which match the user's preferences (Williams et al.

11:27-42) wherein the system controller searches the programming information each time it

receives updated programming information (Williams et al. 12:1-4). The claimed "means for

searching, based on said user preference information stored in said memory means" is met by

accessing a program database for searching keywords that match user profile preferences

(Williams et al. 11:30-32), given a particular search request, system controller 104 searches the

programming information each time it receives updated programming information (via an on-

line service, diskette, etc. as discussed above), and prompts the user with the found program

information in step 402 (Williams et al. 11:61-67; 12:1-5). The claimed "headline information

coincided with said user preference information among received headline information at the time

when the reception of said plurality of headline information is detected by said detecting means"

is met by system controller accessing program database searching for keywords which match

user profile preferences (Williams et al. 11:30-32) and "user profile database 800 also includes

storage for user-defined requests" (Williams et al. 11:61-64). The claimed "means for

generating a second image corresponding to a search result" is met by "[h]aving developed a list

of programming suggestions in step 400, system controller 104 prompts the system user, in an

interactive pop-up window, with the list of programming suggestions, step 402" (Williams et al.

11:49-52). Note, the Williams et al. reference discloses "[s]ystem controller 104 first accesses a

program database searching for keywords which match user profile preferences, step 400"

(Williams et al. 11:27-41). However, the Williams et al. reference does not specifically disclose

how the search result is displayed in the pop-window, the claimed "means for generating a first

image corresponding to the user preference information." Now note the Anderson et al.

reference that discloses methods and apparatus for organizing and searching an electronic

programming guide wherein search terms (keywords) are displayed with the search result

(Anderson, see Figure 9D illustrates "Movies-Western" (keyword) and "True Grit, Blazing

Saddles" (search results). Therefore, the examiner submits that it would have been obvious to

one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Williams et al.

pop up window displaying search results based on user profile/keywords and the Anderson et al.

display of search terms/keywords along with search results for the purpose of providing allowing

the user to readily recognize the criteria of programming suggested to the user and thus quickly

determine the relevance of the program suggestions. Note the Williams et al. and Anderson et al.

combination as discussed above teaches a displaying a first image and second image in an

interactive pop up window. However, the Williams et al. and Anderson et al. combination is

silent as to "means for superimposing [...] over a current video signal." Now note the Bedard

reference that discloses an electronic program guide with enhanced presentation. The claimed

"means for superimposing [...] over a current video signal" is met by "[p]resentation unit 336

combines the program guide display generated by display generation unit 336 with the video

signal received from tuner/decoder 328 to produce a video signal for display. Certain prompts

and displays may be superimposed over video programming of the selected channel" (Bedard

3:67-4:6). Therefore, the examiner submits that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary

skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the Williams et al. and Anderson et

al. combination teaching a first image and second image display with the Bedard superimposing

of a display for the purpose of providing other functionality to a user while allowing the user to

continue to partially monitor the currently tuned programming. The claimed "wherein said user

preference information includes a plurality of registration patterns" is met by the plurality of user

profiles (Williams 9:31-44). The claimed "wherein the registration pattern corresponds to an

event and limits the headline information that is to be searched" is met by the selected user

profile limits the information that is to be searched wherein searching is performed according to

the user's preferences (Williams 11:22-48). Note the selected user profile (registration pattern)

corresponds to an event wherein the user profile information includes data such as preferred

program genre (Williams 5:59-66) and limits the headline information that is to be searched

according to the user profile (Williams 8:41-46) such as limiting the search to specific program

genres. The claimed "wherein one of the plurality of registration patterns is selected first by a

user, preceding a selection of corresponding search criteria" is met by "system controller 104

may provide a window on television/monitor 102 wherein a number of pictures of possible

system users are displayed, wherein the first picture displayed is that which system controller

104 has identified as the most likely system user, requesting that the user affirmatively response

(e.g., via remote control or voice command) when their picture is displayed…If the match is

verified as being accurate, then system controller 104 proceeds to configure the system in step

308" (Williams 10:26-41) wherein "users are able to access their preferences on user profile

database 800 of FIG. 8 and add to, subtract from, and/or modify their recorded preferences"

(Williams 17:17-22). The claimed "and wherein results of searching based on said user

preference information are a function of the selected registration pattern" is met by a the plurality

of user profiles [registration patterns] stored locally on system 100 (Williams et al. 9:31-34)

wherein having determined the current user, the system provides a number of programming

suggestions which most closely align with the user profile of that particular user (Williams

11:22-27).

As to claim 12, please see rejection of claim 1.

As to claim 13, please see rejection of claim 11.

Conclusion

4.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure.

The Beach et al. reference (US 2003/0014753 A1) teaches a distributed, interactive

television program guide; system and method wherein a user selects registration patterns (e.g.,

program categories) preceding the selection of search criteria (e.g., program titles).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Johnny Ma whose telephone number is (571) 272-7351. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chris Kelley can be reached on (571) 272-7331. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

jm

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